

December 2005

To the Veterans of the United States Armed Forces

I am honored to send holiday greetings to America's veterans and their families as they celebrate this time of joy and hope.

Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to those who have sacrificed for our liberty and for the security of our Nation. As we count our many blessings this season, we express deep appreciation to our veterans. These brave patriots stepped forward when America needed them, triumphed over brutal enemies, liberated continents, and answered the prayers of millions around the globe. They have upheld the tradition of honor and integrity set by those who went before them, and the freedom we now enjoy is a monument to their fallen comrades and to all the generations of heroes who have served our country.

I join all Americans in saluting your service and commitment to the cause of liberty. Laura and I send our best wishes for peace and happiness in the coming year. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

George W. Bush